

**Summary of the Engineering and Operations Work Group Meeting
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)
June 27, 2003**

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) hosted the Engineering and Operations Work Group (EOWG) meeting on June 27, 2003 as a teleconference between the Joint Operations Center and Headquarters in Sacramento and the Oroville Field Division in Oroville.

A summary of the discussions, decisions made, and action items is provided below. This summary is not intended to be a transcript, analysis of the meeting, or to indicate agreement or disagreement with any of the items summarized, except where expressly stated. The intent is to present an informational summary for interested parties who could not attend the meeting. The following attachments are provided with this summary:

Attachment 1 Meeting Agenda
Attachment 2 Meeting Attendees

Introduction

Attendees were welcomed to the EOWG meeting. The meeting agenda and desired outcomes were reviewed. The meeting agenda and list of meeting attendees and their affiliations are appended to this summary as Attachments 1 and 2, respectively.

May 30, 2003 Meeting Summary and Action Items

A summary of the May 30, 2003 EOWG is posted on the relicensing web site. The EOWG reviewed the status of action items from that meeting as follows:

Action Item EO#75: Look at existing studies regarding flood control completed by the Corps of Engineers (COE) Comprehensive Plan to determine what needs to be modeled for the relicensing process.

Status: Curtis Creel, Operations Resource Area Manager (RAM) with DWR, reported that this action is in progress, and he would contact Mary Keller of Sutter County to explain the context of this action item. Curtis is concerned that the wording of the action item could be misleading. He will explain to Mary that the action item arose out of a discussion about the potential model scenarios that were distributed and discussed at the April 25, 2003 EOWG meeting. Yuba City expressed concern that flood control was not explicitly considered as a potential model scenarios; it is DWR's position that flood studies are being adequately addressed in other regional forums. Curtis will clarify the intent and purpose of the action item with Mary. Rashid Ahmad, Engineering RAM with DWR added that there have been presentations to the collaborative by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the Comprehensive Study and perhaps a COE representative with technical expertise could be invited to a Work Group meeting where this issue is on the agenda to answer questions. Lori Brown with DWR suggested the responses contained within the collaborative record of presentation summaries and question and answer exchanges could be accumulated and distributed to the EOWG.

Action Item EO#76: Further develop potential model scenarios and distribute a revised draft to the EOWG for review and comment. Summarize the information in spreadsheet format.

- Status:** Curtis reported that he and Terry Mills, Environmental RAM for DWR, are working on a draft and will share it with the respective Work Groups soon.
- Action Item EO#77:** Develop an agenda for the June 24th modeling workshop and distribute it to the EOWG for review and comment.
- Status:** Draft agenda was developed and distributed and the modeling seminar was conducted.
- Action Item EO#78:** Develop an agenda for multi-day, cross resource model results workshop and distribute a draft to the EOWG for review and comment.
- Status:** Curtis reported that the complete benchmark studies will not be completed by the August Modeling Workshop scheduled dates but the hope is to have scenarios run using representative strings of years for comparative analysis. He described the Value Engineering or Functional Analysis workshop recommended by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) during the last Environmental Work Group meeting and noted the similarities with the multi-issue, cross-resource Work Group meetings he envisions for the August Modeling Workshop. He suggested the August Workshop could include a discussion of modeling results, and the participants could subsequently break up into smaller groups focused on solving specific problems. The groups could then reconvene to discuss results. Curtis indicated that DWR management would consider the recommendation from FWS for a functional analysis workshop.

De-brief of Modeling Seminar

Curtis described the recent Modeling Seminar held in place of the June Plenary Group meeting. While DWR planned for a higher attendance, those that attended the Modeling Seminar expressed positive feedback and acknowledged how much information they gained from attending. Curtis suggested that the modelers need to explain their underlying assumptions and characteristics more fully and noted several agency representatives that are quite knowledgeable and interested in the modeling that could be more efficiently integrated into the process. Ken Kules offered that the significance of the modeling effort might not become apparent to some stakeholders until later in the process when modeling results start to appear. Stan Wangberg representing Western Canal thanked the modeling team for the presentations and said the seminar was very helpful in his understanding of the modeling process and options.

Revised Modeling Scenarios

Curtis explained that the draft modeling scenarios he outlined and distributed to the EOWG had been further developed by the modeling team, and he was currently reviewing the document with the intent to provide a 'user-friendly' version for distribution to the EOWG by July 25, 2003. He described the matrix currently under development in the Environmental Work Group and explained that he was developing a similar matrix for the EOWG. Ken Kules noted that the other Work Groups were dealing with proposals to change something, and the EOWG was analyzing those other resource action effects. Curtis agreed and suggested that the matrix will provide a tool to establish a bridge or link between those two activities so that model scenarios can be tracked to the driving resource action(s).

Kathy Petersen of Oroville-Wyandotte Irrigation District informed the EOWG of the District's name change to South Feather Water and Power and their intention to kick off a traditional-hybrid relicensing process for their hydropower facilities on September 30, 2003. The date is approximately 5-1/2 years ahead of license expiration. Public meetings are scheduled for early November 2003.

Next Steps

EOWG participants agreed to meet:

Date: August 1, 2003

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: OFD with video and teleconference capabilities

Action Items

The following action items were identified by the Engineering and Operations Work Group and includes a description of the action, the participant responsible for the action, and due date.

Action Item EO#79: Provide expanded description of modeling scenarios to EOWG.

Responsible: DWR/Consulting team

Due Date: July 25, 2003

Action Item EO#80: Develop draft Engineering and Operations Matrix similar to Environmental Work Group matrix.

Responsible: DWR/Consulting team

Due Date: August 1, 2003

Carry Over Action Items

Action Item EO#75: Look at the existing studies regarding flood control completed by the Corps of Engineers (Comprehensive Plan) to determine what needs to be modeled for the relicensing process.

Responsible: DWR/Consulting team

Due Date: August 1, 2003

Action Item EO#76: Further develop potential model scenarios and distribute a revised draft to the EOWG for review and comment. Summarize the information in spreadsheet format.

Responsible: DWR/Consulting Team

Due Date: June 27, 2003

Action Item EO#78: Develop an agenda for multi-day, cross resource model results workshop and distribute a draft to the EOWG for review and comment.

Responsible: DWR/Consulting team

Due Date: June 27, 2003